

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 014098 TOSEC 010024

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SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT WASHINGTON STAR EDITORIAL, TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, HEADED "THE DOG ON KISSINGER'S ANKLE."
2. MOST OF US, UNSCHOOLED AS WE ARE IN THE PLEASURES AND MYSTERIES OF INTERNATIONAL CAMRADERIE, ARE HAVING A BIT OF TROUBLE ADDING UP DETENTE, WHEAT AND ANGOLA AND COMING OUT WITH THE RIGHT NUMBER.
3. FEW OF US, OF COURSE, SEE LONG-TERM PROFITABILITY IN AN ACTIVIST U.S. ROLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. MOST OF US UNDERSTAND, MOREOVER, THAT BIG GRAIN SALES TO THE SOVIET UNION ARE A BOON TO OUR RECOVERING BALANCE OF PAYMENTS. ALL OF US UNDERSTAND THAT THE WORLD IS A COMPLICATED PLACE, WHERE EACH PROBLEM IS HARD ENOUGH IN ITS OWN TERMS AND PROBLEMS CAN'T ALWAYS BE SOLVED IN BUNDLES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 014098 TOSEC 010024

4. NEVERTHELESS, SOMETHING IN THE DISCREPANCIES OF DETENTE

PROVOKES LINGERING COMMON-SENSE QUESTIONS.LET US ILLUSTRATE BY HOMELY EXAMPLE. SUPPOSE THAT TWO OLD GLADIATORS, AFTER MENACING ONE ANOTHER FOR YEARS, ANNOUNCE WITH GREAT FANFARE THAT THEY'VE DECIDED TO PUT THEIR RELATIONSHIP ON A MORE

RELAXED FOOTING, CALLED DETENTE. IT DOESN'T MEAN THE OLD QUARRELS HAVE BEEN CALLED OFF. IT DOES MEAN THEY WILL STRIVE TO AVOID AN ACCIDENTAL MUTUAL BEHEADING; AND THE NEW RELATIONSHIP IS UNDERSTOOD TO INCLUDE A MUTUAL AGREEMENT TO AVOID RECKLESS AFFRONT ON NEUTRAL TURF OF STRATEGIC INTEREST TO NEITHER GLADIATOR. THE BUSINESS SEEMS TO BE GOING FAIRLY WELL, BUT SUDDENLY THERE IS A SIGHT THAT ESCAPES NO ONE'S NOTICE. WHILE ONE GLADIATOR IS GENEROUSLY SERVING THE OTHER FROM HIS LARDER, THE OTHER'S DOG HAS HIS TEETH SET IN THE FIRST'S ANKLE. NATURALLY, FRIENDS OF THE FIRST GLADIATOR ASK: "WHY IS IT, WITH THIS MARVELOUS NEW RELATIONSHIP, YOU DON'T ASK HIM IN THE NICEST WAY TO LEASH HIS LITTLE DOG BEFORE THE NEXT SHIPMENT OF FOOD GOES OUT AND THE NEXT WEAPONS AGREEMENT IS INITIALED?"

5. THIS HOMELY EXAMPLE IS NOT, WE THINK, FAR OFF THE MARK. THE SOVIET UNION'S POLICY IN ANGOLA IS A LITTLE DOG AT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ANKLE--A BOTHERSOME ANOMALY IN DETENTE. IT DOESN'T ADD UP BECAUSE ANGOLA IS NOT A VITAL STRATEGIC INTEREST OF THE SOVIET UNION, AND BECAUSE MR. KISSINGER AND PRESIDENT FORD ARE SUFFICIENTLY DISTURBED BY SOVIET ADVENTURE THERE TO OFFER COVERT ASSISTANCE TO OTHER ANGOLAN FACTIONS.

6. NO ONE HAS CLEARLY EXPLAINED WHY, IF DETENTE IS ALL IT'S CRACKED UP TO BE, THE U.S. CANNOT OR DOES NOT INSIST THAT THE RUSSIANS CALL OFF THEIR DOG AS A CONDITION OF DOING FURTHER DEALS ON GRAIN OR ARMS LIMITATION.

7. THE QUESTION IS PUZZLING NOT ONLY TO PEOPLE WHO TAKE AN UNSOPHISTICATED, COMMON-SENSE (AND PERHAPS TOO SIMPLE) VIEW OF THE WORLD, BUT ALSO TO EXPERTS IN THE FIELD OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS. FOR INSTANCE, ERNEST W. LEFEVER OF THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION, WRITING THE OTHER DAY IN THE NEW YORK TIMES, ASKED:

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 014098 TOSEC 010024

8. "WHY DOES NOT MR. FORD, HOPEFULLY WITH THE SUPPORT OF CONGRESS, INFORM MR. BREZHNEV THAT U.S. GRAIN SHIPMENTS TO THE SOVIET UNION WILL BE SUSPENDED AND THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS TALKS BROKEN OFF UNTIL MOSCOW WITHDRAWS ITS CUBAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM ANGOLA?"

9. THIS QUESTION HAS GONE TOO LONG UNANSWERED. SECRETARY

KISSINGER'S CURRENT TRIP TO MOSCOW--CERTAIN, BY THE WAY,  
TO PRODUCE THE USUAL TELEVISION FOOTAGE OF COMARADERIE  
WITH THE RUSSIANS--REMINDS US AGAIN OF THAT FACT.

10. IS THE QUESTION UNANSWERED BECAUSE IT IS A SILLY

QUESTION? OR BECAUSE DR. KISSINGER THINKS THE ANSWER TOO  
COMPLICATED (OR TOO DISTURBING) TO SATISFY COMMON SENSE? OR  
BECAUSE THE DOMESTIC SETTING OF DETENTE--GRAIN SALES BEING  
AS POPULAR IN CERTAIN REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL CONSTITUEN-  
CIES AS DIRECT AID TO THE ANTI-SOVIET FACTIONS IN ANGOLA IS  
UNPOPULAR AMONG CERTAIN DEMOCRATIC SENATORS--RENDERS PLAUS-  
IBLE ANSWERS EMBARRASSING? OR NONE OF THE ABOVE?

11. THE SILENCE ON THIS QUESTION IS THE MORE PUZZLING WHEN  
ONE RECALLS THE FASHIONABLE NOTION OF "LINKAGE" OF WHICH SO  
MUCH WAS HEARD IN THE EARLY STAGES OF DETENTE--THE IDEA  
BEING THAT A TRULY HARMONIOUS WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE  
SOVIET UNION MUST BE A SEAMLESS WHOLE. WHAT ON EARTH EVER  
HAPPENED TO LINKAGE--OR ARE THERE NO LINKS BETWEEN ANGOLA  
AND THE AMERICAN CORN BELT? IN ANY CASE, WE THINK MR.  
LEFEVER ASKS THE RIGHT QUESTION, AND THAT HIS ASSUMPTION IS  
CORRECT: "IF DETENTE HAS ANY SUBSTANCE, ANGOLA IS CERTAINLY  
A TEST CASE." WHEN DR. KISSINGER FLEW OFF TO SEE MR. BREZH-  
NEV THIS WEEK, THAT NASTY LITTLE DOG WAS SEEN TO BE STILL  
HANGING AT HIS ANKLE, DRAWTNG MORE THAN A TRICKLE OF BLOOD.  
HE OUGHT TO SHAKE THE BEAST OFF, OR EXPLAIN WHY ITS PRESENCE  
IS A NECESSARY FEATURE OF SOME GRANDER SCHEME OF WORLD  
PEACE. (END TEXT) SISCO

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